UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/25022
29 December 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

NOTE VERBALE DATED 10 DECEMBER 1992 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF DENMARK TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Permanent Representative of Denmark to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General and, with reference to the latter's note of 14 October 1992, has the honour, upon instructions from the Government of Denmark, to communicate the following information relating to the violations of humanitarian law, including grave breaches of the Geneva Conventions, being committed in the territory of the former Yugoslavia.

The Government of Denmark welcomes the decision by the Security Council to establish an impartial Commission of Experts to examine and analyse information concerning violations of humanitarian law in the territory of the former Yugoslavia. It also welcomes the Secretary-General's announcement of the appointment of the Chairman and members of the Commission.

Denmark is ready, in the spirit of Security Council resolutions 771 (1992) and 780 (1992), to cooperate closely with the investigations being carried out by the United Nations into violations of humanitarian law in the context of the Yugoslav conflict, in particular by communicating relevant information on the matter.

The primary source for the work of the Commission should, in the view of the Government of Denmark, be the considerable amounts of valuable information that have been gathered by the United Nations, the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), the European Community (EC) and other bodies during on-site inspections on the territory of the former Yugoslavia.

Those involved in operations of such international organizations and other bodies report directly to the organization or body in question. Danish citizens have been participating in various international missions, such as the EC Monitoring Missions (ECMM) to Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Belgrade, the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) to Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, the CSCE Missions of long duration to Kosovo, Sandzak and Vojvodina, the CSCE Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje, and the CSCE Corell-Mission under the Human Dimension Mechanism to Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Another source for the work of the Commission should be the valuable information that has been gathered by non-governmental organizations, such as Amnesty International.

Information concerning violations of international humanitarian law in the former Yugoslavia has not been submitted personally by Danish citizens or by asylum-seekers from the former Yugoslavia to the Government of Denmark. However, the Government of Denmark would be prepared to investigate the possibility of collecting such information from asylum-seekers being present in Denmark if the Secretary-General finds it desirable.

If any substantiated information regarding violations of humanitarian law is being submitted to the Government of Denmark in the future, such information will immediately be transmitted to the Commission of Experts.

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